House File 2353 - Introduced

HOUSE FILE 2353
BY COMMITTEE ON LOCAL
GOVERNMENT

(SUCCESSOR TO HSB 538)

A BILL FOR

- 1 An Act removing prohibitions on emergency management
- 2 organization employees from holding elective office.
- 3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

H.F. 2353

- 1 Section 1. Section 29C.16, Code 2016, is amended to read as 2 follows:
- 3 29C.16 Political activity prohibited.
- 4 1. A person employed by any organization for emergency
- 5 management established under this chapter shall not:
- 6 a. l. During working hours or when performing official
- 7 duties or when using public equipment or at any time on public
- 8 property, take part in any way in soliciting any contribution
- 9 for any political party or any person seeking political office.
- 10 The provisions of this section do not preclude any employee
- 11 from holding any nonpartisan elective office for which no pay
- 12 is received or any office for which only token pay is received.
- 13 b. 2. Seek or attempt to use any political endorsement in
- 14 connection with any appointment to a position created under
- 15 this chapter.
- 16 c. 3. Use any official authority or influence for the
- 17 purpose of interfering with an election or affecting the
- 18 results thereof of an election.
- 19 2. Any employee of an organization for emergency management
- 20 shall not become a candidate for any partisan elective office.
- 21 EXPLANATION
- 22 The inclusion of this explanation does not constitute agreement with
- 23 the explanation's substance by the members of the general assembly.
- 24 This bill relates to prohibitions on emergency management
- 25 organization employees from holding elective office.
- 26 Under current law, such employees are prohibited from
- 27 taking part in soliciting contributions for political parties
- 28 or political candidates at certain times, from seeking or
- 29 using a political endorsement in connection to appointment to
- 30 an emergency management position, and from interfering with
- 31 elections and election results. Current law provides that such
- 32 prohibitions do not preclude emergency management organization
- 33 employees from holding certain nonpartisan elective offices.
- 34 The bill strikes the language providing this exception and
- 35 strikes another provision that prohibits such employees from

1 becoming candidates for partisan elective office.